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RECORD OF AMERICAN ENTOMOLOGY FOR 1870.*—This useful index to our entomological literature published during the year 1870, forms a much thinner pamphlet than its predecessors. We are not, however, to infer from this that entomology is on the decline in this country, as we must expect some variation from year to year in the degree of attention to this study. The number of entomologists who have published articles of varying length is thirty-five, while three hundred and one new species of insects have been described in American journals during the year. We hope entomologists will continue as before to give this enterprise a cordial support, as the "Record" is by no means self supporting. Public libraries should have these annual records, as they are valuable for reference and relate to a large and growing department of zoology.

NEW ORNITHOLOGICAL WORKS.—A new edition, the fourth, of "Yarrell's History of British Birds," is now in course of publication by Van Voorst, under the editorship of Prof. Alfred Newton, the well known ornithologist, and Professor of Zoology in the University of Cambridge. The work is issued in monthly parts of eighty pages each, at 2s 6d a part. It is expected that twenty-five parts will complete the work, which will be comprised in three octavo volumes containing nearly six hundred illustrations. The names used by Yarrell in the former editions will be retained, but at the same time the nomenclature will be brought up to the present requirements of ornithological science, and all birds that have been found to be inhabitants of the British Isles since the time of Yarrell will be given.

A much larger and more pretentious work is the "History of the Birds of Europe, including all the species inhabiting the Western Palearctic region," by R. B. Sharpe and H. E. Dresser.

This work, of which two parts are now ready for delivery, is to be issued in monthly parts of quarto size with colored plates. All the birds of Europe, amounting to about six hundred species, will be figured in their different stages of plumage, a plate being devoted to each species. Each annual volume will contain one hundred plates, with full descriptions of the species and remarks on the habits, geographical distribution, synonymy, etc.

The unrivalled facilities at the command of the authors, and the

*Published by the Naturalists' Agency, 1871. Svo. pp. 27. Price 50 cents. The Records for 1868, '69 and '70 for \$1. 50.